Miss Mary Redman
So. Fourth Street.

Miss M. Redman, Philadelphia, February 23d. 1830.

The Silver Waiter which accompanied your Note of this morning shall be placed with the Communion Plate of Christ Church agreeably to your request, and used as a stand for the Urn marked S. Redman. The Church acknowledges your kindness in the gift, and with respect

I remain, dear Madam

Yours sincerely

Henry J. Hutchins

Asst. Warden of Christ Church.

A Statement of the Claims of Mrs Dorothy M. Francis to the two Seats formerly held by Mrs Elizabeth Powel in Pew No 41 Middle aisle St Peter's Church —

The following is, it is believed a correct account of the Acquisition of the various Seats in Pew No 41 by their present possessors —

The pew was originally the property of Col. William Byrd of Westover Virg.a — who after his marriage with Miss Mary Willing was a resident in Philad.a During the Winter Months — Sometime after his permanent removal to Virg.a the Whole pew came into the possession of his Brother in Law Mr Jerah Francis, who held it till the year 17.. when removing to his Farm in the Neighbourhood of the City he ceded two Seats to Mrs Thos Willing as Heir to Mr Samuel Powel — Sometime afterwards Mrs Powel urged her sister Mrs Francis to resign to her a third Seat, which was consented to reluctantly as Mrs Francis wished to transmit her privileges in the pew entire to her Children — the three remaining seats afterwards become as they now are the property of her Children —

These circumstances are mentioned in order to shew that the pew never properly belonged to the Willing Family (whose pew was in Christ Church) and therefore Mrs Sarah Fisher Powel can have no claim as being a Member of that family — But it may also be important to recollect that Mrs D.H. Francis and Her Decendants are the representatives of Mr Jerah Francis (from whom Mrs Powel derived her right — as Heir to

the last entire owner of the Pew) and also that her Grand
Children for whose use she particularly desires the
seats the Daughters of D^r R. Rose & Grand
Children and only Descendants in Philad^a of Col. By the
first purchaser of the Pew — It might be supposed a just
principle for regulating the descent of sittings in a divided
pew that they should revert to the families of the first
purchasers who are equally near relations of the last
owner and are still part owners of the pew, rather than
be assigned to a collateral relation thereby bringing
together branches of a family only distantly connected —

It is understood from the best Authority "that Pews in the
"United Churches are a very peculiar interest — not
"transferable nor Devisable to Strangers — that they pass to
"the Children of the Occupant and beyond this is the
"character of the right is unsettled" — that in ordinary
Cases — where not mentioned in a Will — sittings in a
pew would pass to a blood relation who is at the same
time the principal as well as residuary legatee by virtue
of the residuary Clause may at first be supposed — yet exact
cases may be cited where this would not take place — and perhaps it
may be advanced as a general rule "that they would not
"pass where the intention or wishes of the Testator may be
"proved or presumed to have been otherwise — Thus suppose a
Testator — leaving Children should nominate as residuary

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seats but the Chu
This is an instance
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In the year 1811
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This promise he
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is not precisely reco
the presence of Mr F

legatee a Nephew — that Nephew would not be entitled to the seats but the Children —

This is an instance of implied or presumed intention — the case at present in discussion will be shown to be one of an expressed and ascertained intention that the seats should not go with the residue of the Estate

In the year 1811 Mrs Powell at the request of her sister Mrs E. P. Fisher promised her for herself — & her (Mrs F's) Son the one of the seats which she Mrs Powell had received from Mr Francis (the father of Mrs Fisher) and few Months afterwards actually resigned it to her — and at the same time the 29th day of March 1811 she told Mrs Fisher in the presence of her sister Mrs Hare as well as of Miss Hare that after her death the two remaining seats which she held in the Pew, and which she had received from Mr Jerk Francis should go to her Nephew Thos W. Francis or his family — of this Mrs Fisher made a Memorandum at the time in an Almanac still in her possession — A short time after this Mrs W. Francis says that she spoke to her Dr Sist Mrs Powell on the subject and thanked her for her promise which Mrs Powell then repeated and confirmed —

This promise has been repeatedly referred to during the succeeding years in the presence of Mrs Powell and always with her assent — Mrs E. P. Fisher recollects various instances of her Mrs P's having acknowledged this promise to the Family of her Brother — and particularly Mary Rober the Housekeeper and Confidential friend of Mrs Powell has always received the same impression as to the proposed disposal of the seats. — Within two years the exact date is not precisely recollected says Mr Henry Harrison Mrs Fisher in the presence of Miss Hare reminded Mrs Powell of her promise which

Mrs P. said she recollected perfectly all I repeated — Mrs Fisher observed that she mentioned it at that time in order that it might be fully understood — Mr Powel replied to this Effect "Well my Dear they will of course be transferred after my Death to your Brother's Widow — there can be no difficulty about it —

Actuated by these impressions Mrs Fisher desired Mr Barry Roberts who had always been in the habit of paying the pew rent due on Mr Powels seats to have the transfer Made — Mr Nicholas Francis also Made the same application for his Brother and it was understood the transfer would be reported for confirmation to the Vestry at their next Meeting — But Mr John Hare Powel has in the meantime exclaimed the seats as residuary legatee. — Upon these conflicting claims the Vestry are now to decide —

It has always been the impression of Mrs Francis that sittings in the United Churches were not transferable right to any relations except to Children — That when the transfer was Made to collaterals — it was a Matter of favour from the Wardens and Vestry who are Authorized on the express representation of the Wishes of the last occupant — to put them in the Name of any Blood relation — The wishes and intentions of Mr Powel have been exhibited above and may be proved by the Testimony of Mrs E. P. Fisher, Mrs Dd. Francis, and Mrs Henry Harrison — His intention expressed repeatedly during nearly twenty years seems to give

a stronger right than the implication of the residuary
Clause — More especially since it must have been known
to Mr Powel that the right to two sittings in a divided pew
could be of little service to the father of a large family
as is the case of her Nephew Mr John Hare Powel, while to
her Niece Mrs Francis who is already a part owner of
pew is additional places for her Children and Grand Children

If the seats are awarded to Mr Powel it will be in opposition
to the intention of Mrs Elizabeth Powel and Indeed it is
difficult to understand how the Legacy Law of Penn. can
operate in the present instance since Pews are a species
of property the transfer of which is not regulated by the
Law of the Land but by usage — or by Laws of the Church
Wardens and Vestry. The Church being a Private corporation
the decision now to be made ought to be without reference
to Municipal law, and will not be liable to revision or
appeal —

The above facts and Circumstances Mrs Dal
Francis submits respectfully to the Rector Church Wardens
and Vestry of the United Churches of Christ Church and
St Peters. —

19 April 1830.

Mrs D. M. Francis

St. as to 2 Sittings

late Mrs Powers's No.

41 Middle Aisle

St. Peters.

Mr Murphy

Mth. Rev. Francis Bonaventure

D. Sir

On the receipt of your note of yesterday in relation to a loan of $1000 to the United Churches, I examined my papers, but do not find amongst them any acknowledgement of the present Debt; on the 19 May 1828 I delivered to Mr Bringhurst a variety of papers, which, it was thought best, should be deposited, in the fire proof Closet at the Hospital, I have an impression that amongst them will be found Receipts given by the Ch. Wardens in pursuance of the resolutions of the Com.: (Copies of which I inclose) and an Order drawn in the usual form upon the Treasurer. If it would suit your convenience to receive a check before the above or any other form is adopted, I will with pleasure send it to you. Most Resp.y Yr Obt Svt

Tobias Wagner
Rev. C. C. H.
Phil.a April 21. 1830

Wm. Meredith Esq
Ch W. of the Mn. Ch.

W. Meredith Esqr.

Ja Caph. 1830

Gob: Thompson

Pres. Ch.

Phila. Chap:

May 25. 1830.

J. Wagner
Treas. &c.

Dear Sir

I have a balance in Bank of $823.97/100 which, if the Committee have no appropriations to make, other than the ordinary disbursements of the Hospital, might be invested. From the amounts becoming due before the next meeting of the 8 prox: the receipts should be amply sufficient to meet the probable drafts to be made at that time.

I should be pleased to have yr advice respecting the investment.

I beg leave also to say that I have prepared my accts for the annual examination and would thank you to designate the time it will suit the Committee for that purpose

I am Most Resp.y
Yr obt Svt

J. Wagner

W. Meredith Esq

Trea. G.C.H. May 25. 1830.

My D Sir

I have detained the quarterly
A. until the last Moment expecting to have
collected about $30 More but it has not come
and constrains me to send you the trifling
Sum of $47.52 D Sir

Yours with esteem

Jno Mellery

9 July 1830

Mayors Office Sept.r 4.th 1830

A number of highly respectable citizens having applied to me to direct that the Bells of Christ Church shall be rung in honour of the Glorious Triumph of the people of France over their domestic enemies I do hereby order and direct that the Bells of said Church be rung on the Sixth of Septem 1830 in Commemoration of this Glorious event.

William Milnor
Mayor

To the Sexton of Christ Church

Mr Robert R. Bringhurst

No. 56 North 5th Street

William Meredith Esq.

Con. 15th Street

Mr. Irving presents his respectful compliments to Mr. Meredith, & requests permission to consult the Minute Book of the Vestry of Christ Church, for the years 1755—62—of which he is informed Mr. M. has the charge.— If this book could be entrusted to Mr. Hunt, the bearer, the Sexton of St. Pauls Church, Mr. I. would see it safely returned

October 27th

Revd Mr Tyng

Oct. 1830.

William Meredith Esqr. Philad: Decemr 22 1830

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are two Certificates of 5 per Cent Stock City Debt which are reimbursable on the 1st day of January 1831 and which Debt will be redeemed at that time agreably to an advertisement by the Mayor - The Amount of these 2 Certificates of $100 each I have to request you will receive and hand over to me to be reinvested in some other kind of Stock as belonging to the Fund arising from Henry Rigby's legacy. Mr Cornelius Stevenson City Treasurr tells me that it will be requisite to have the Seal of the Corporation of the United Churches affixed to the Certificates when surrendered, or an authority under the said Seal to receive the amount, of all which you were well informed. I notice that the Mayor advertizes for a City Loan amg $60,000 wanted on 31st Inst. I should like to reinvest these $200 in the City Debt, but do not think it probable that the City will divide the sum wanted

Please to excuse the trouble I may give you by this request virtute officii & believe me ever

Yours respectfully

Henry J. Hutchins

William Meredith Esqr

Present. -

Henry J. Williams
Dec. 22. 1830
H. of Rep. U.S.
Rights of
Rich. Legacy.